

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 03106 110252Z

11

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 OMB-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11

OIC-04 DRC-01 /173 W

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R 110143Z SEP 74

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5350

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USINT DAMASCUS

AMCONGEN JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3106

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, XF

SUBJ: ARABS TO INSCRIBE PALESTINE QUESTION BY END OF WEEK

1. GROUP COMPRISING ALL ARAB LEAGUE MISSIONS DECIDED LATE  
SEPT 9 TO SEND LETTER TO SYG BEFORE END OF WEEK  
REQUESTING INCLUSION OF ITEM AT 29TH UNGA ENTITLED "THE QUESTION  
OF PALESTINE." LETTER WILL BE SIGNED BY ALL ARAB LEAGUE  
MISSIONS AND, ACCORDING TO LEBANESE COUNSELOR, "PERHAPS SOME  
OTHERS." NOTE: SOVIETS TOLD FRENCH SEPT 10 THAT ALGERIAN PERMREP  
RAHAL ASKED IF USSR WOULD BE WILLING CO-SPONSOR REQUEST FOR  
INSCRIPTION. SMUN MINISTER OVINNIKOV REPLIED THAT SOV CO-  
SPONSORSHIP WAS NOT POSSIBLE GIVEN ITEM'S PRESENT LACK OF  
CLARITY. BRITISH AND ITALIANS HAVE ALSO TOLD US OF LOW-LEVEL  
PROBLES BY EGYPTIANS AS TO THEIR INTEREST IN CO-SPONSORSHIP.

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PAGE 02 USUN N 03106 110252Z

(NEITHER BIT.) AND FRENCH SAID THEY HAD SEEN AFP ARTICLE --

THOUGH RECEIVED NO OFFICIAL REPORT -- THAT TWO PLO REPRESENTATIVES HAD BEEN RECEIVED SEPT 9 AT QUAI.

2. EGYPTIAN MISSION TELLS US ARABS HAVE SET UP DRAFTING GROUP TO COMPOSE EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM WHICH, UNDER RULES OF PROCEDURE, SHOULD ACCOMPANY REQUEST FOR INSCRIPTION. GROUP IS MADE UP OF LEBANON, SYRIA, JORDAN, EGYPT AND PLO REPRESENTATIVE SADAT HASSAN. HASSAN IS DOING FIRST DRAFT, BUT UNDER INSTRUCTION FROM FULL ARAB GROUP THAT IT BE "SHORT AND UN-CONTENTIOUS." FULL ARAB GROUP WILL REVIEW DRAFT MORNING SEPT 11. AGAIN ACCORDING TO EGYPTIANS, IT CONTAINS THREE ELEMENTS:

A) REQUEST FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF GA RESOLUTIONS ON PALESTINE QUESTION;  
B) REQUEST THAT RIGHTS OF PALESTINIANS BE REAFFIRMED;  
C) REQUEST THAT UN, AT THIS SESSION, CONSIDER PALESTINE QUESTION AS A POLITICAL RATHER THAN A REFUGEE PROBLEM.  
THERE WILL BE NO REFERENCE TO PLO OR TO ISRAEL. NO DRAFT RESOLUTION WILL BE ATTACHED.

3. JORDANIANS TELL US ARABS HAVE NOT YET DECIDED WHETHER TO SEEK TO INSCRIBE ITEM IN PLENARY OR FIRST COMMITTEE. NOTE: WE CONTINUE THINK ARABS WILL OPT FOR PLENARY: IT HAS GREATER AURA OF PRESTIGE; BOUTEFILKA WILL BE IN CHAIR; AND SOMEWHAT MORE LATITUDE EXISTS IN PLENARY FOR SCHEDULING ITEM TO SUIT ARABS' CONVENIENCE THAN IN CROWDED FIRST COMMITTEE. ISRAELI MISSION SHARES THIS ASSESSMENT.

4. ARABS' INITIAL VIEW ON TIMING IS THAT MAXIMUM IMPACT WOULD BE EARLY IN GA (PERHAPS RIGHT AFTER GENERAL DEBATE) WHEN MOST FOREIGN MINISTERS WILL BE PRESENT. COMMENT: WE ASSUME DEPT WOULD PREFER ITEM BE DEBATED LATE IN ASSEMBLY SO AS TO DO LEAST POSSIBLE DAMAGE TO GENEVA CONFERENCE PREPARATIONS. IF SO, WE SEE NO HARM IN LETTING MODERATE ARAB DELS KNOW OUR VIEWS, AND WOULD BE HAPPY TAKE THIS ON IF INSTRUCTED.  
BENNETT

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## Message Attributes

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